

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE HEALTH

OF THE

SOUTHBOROUGH

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT,

IN

1900.

CENSUS, 1881.	CENSUS, 1891.
No. of Acres 1,660	No. of Acres 1,678*
Inhabited Houses ... 838	Inhabited Houses ... 1,102
Population 4,059	Population 5,418

* 78 Acres transferred to Tunbridge Wells in
November, 1894.

THE **Population** of Southborough was estimated by the method adopted by the Registrar-General to be **7,077** at the middle of 1900, showing an increase of 202 since the middle of 1899.

The registered Births amounted to 182, including 105 of males and 77 of females, and giving a **Birth-rate** of **22.9** per 1,000 of population, as compared with 29.9 in 1899.

Seventy-nine deaths were returned, which consisted of 31 of males and 48 of females, and giving a **Death-rate** of **12.4** per 1,000 of population, as compared with 16.7 in 1899 and 15.7 in 1898.

In addition to the 79 deaths registered in the District, 9 occurred outside it, among persons belonging thereto, viz: at the Tonbridge Union Workhouse, and these are taken into account in the calculation of the death-rate.

Of the total 79 deaths, 4 were caused by one or other of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz., 2 by Diphtheria and 2 by Diarrhœa.

The **Zymotic Death-rate** was 0.5 per 1000 of population, as compared with 2.7 in the previous year and 2.2 in 1898.

The **Infant Mortality**, *i.e.*, the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per each 1,000 registered births was **98**, as compared with 116 in 1899, and 184 in 1898.

For England and Wales, taken as a whole, the birth-rate during 1900 was 28.9 (lowest on record); the general death-rate 18.3; and the Zymotic death-rate 2.00 per 1,000 of population.

The rate of mortality among infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births was 154.

It will be seen from the above figures that the birth-rate is exceedingly low, being 6.0 below the lowest rate on record for the country generally, while the general death-rate, the Zymotic death-rate, and the infant mortality, are all particularly satisfactory.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Under the provisions of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899, 63 cases were reported, as against 86 cases in the previous year and 25 in 1898.

They consisted of 8 cases of Scarlet Fever, 49 of Diphtheria, 1 of Enteric Fever, 4 of Erysipelas and 1 of Puerperal Fever.

Scarlet Fever showed a great decrease from the number of the previous year, falling from 53 cases to 8. These were reported one in each of the months of January, March, April, May and September, and 3 in August, so that the district was entirely free from the disease during February, June, July, October, November and December.

All the cases recovered and occurred at the following age-periods:

5-15 years	15-25 years
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5	3 = 8 cases.

Diphtheria was prevalent throughout the year, November and December alone not contributing to the total of 49 cases. Ten cases were reported in January, 15 in February, 8 in March, 4 in April, 2 in May, one in each of the months of June, July and August, 3 in September, and 4 in October.

The Disease was not confined to any particular part of the District and was of a mild type, only two deaths (both of little boys, aged 3 years) occurring, one at the Parade, in May, and one at Edward Street, in September.

More than 50 per cent. were removed to the Isolation Hospital and these all recovered.

The cases and deaths occurred at the following age-periods:

0-1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-65 years
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1	7	34	5	2 = 49 cases.
	2			= 2 deaths.

The Diphtheria death-rate was only 0.2 per 1000 of population.

Enteric (or Typhoid) Fever.—One non-fatal case occurred in January, the patient being a lad aged 14.

Erysipelas produced 4 cases, 3 in January and one in November, all of which recovered. The ages varied from 25 to 65 years.

Puerperal Fever.—One case occurred in October, which also recovered.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

It is most satisfactory to record that not a single death was caused either by Measles or Whooping-cough.

Diarrhœa was responsible for 2 deaths only, one in June of a child aged 14 months, and the other of an adult in December.

Influenza also caused only 2 deaths, both of adults, one in February and the second in November.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

Twelve separate inspections were made by me during the year 1900, in addition to those connected with cases of infectious disease.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, and the Bake-houses are in a very satisfactory condition.

No serious cases of over-crowding have been met with during the past year, and no action has so far been necessary under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, the demand for cottages having been fairly well met by private enterprise.

The Dairies are well kept and are under constant supervision.

I inspected a cowshed at High Brooms, which was not satisfactorily drained, and means were at once taken to remedy this.

The four Slaughter Houses are in a very satisfactory condition and the licenses have been renewed annually by the Council.

There are no factories within the area of the Southborough Urban District, and no Workshops, with the exception of those used for the manufacture of cricket balls.

In March I inspected and reported upon a site for a proposed Cemetery.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

During the year 1900, 32 patients, suffering from infectious disease were removed to and treated at the Isolation Hospital.

They consisted of 5 cases of Scarlet Fever, and 27 of Diphtheria. Thirteen were males and nineteen females.

The cases admitted as follows:—

6	in	January	...	...	Diphtheria.
12	,,	February	...	...	,,
6	,,	March	...	...	,,
3	,,	April	...	...	,,
1	,,	May	...	...	Scarlet Fever.
3	,,	August	...	...	,,
1	,,	September	...	...	,,

It is a matter for congratulation that no deaths occurred in the hospital during the year, although it is seen from the above list that 27 out of 32 were cases of Diphtheria, and many were quite young children.

The lengthy persistence of the infection of Diphtheria after the throat is apparently well, is not fully recognised and the more prolonged isolation in hospital has been of great benefit, not only to the patients and the families from which they came, but also to those living near and in close communication with infected families.

The longest stay at the Hospital was 50 days; the shortest 16 days, and the average stay 23 days.

SCHOOL CLOSURES.

It was found necessary to advise the closure of the following schools :—

Christ Church Infants' School, Charles Street, from January 1st to January 29th on account of the prevalence of Diphtheria, and from July 31st to September 14th on account of the prevalence of Mumps.

National School, St. Peter's, The Common, from January 1st to January 29th, on account of the prevalence of Diphtheria.

WATER SUPPLY.

The boring operations for water have progressed during the year, but no supply is as yet available. The town is supplied partly by water from the original works and partly by water from the Tonbridge Water Works.

Both these sources are under supervision and analyses are periodically made.

Mr. Harmer's report on the work carried out in his department during the year is appended.

It will be noticed that the statistical tables at the end of of this report are somewhat different from those of former years. The four new tables have been issued by the Local Government Board in place of the two headed "A" and "B," which were until quite recently in use, with a view to facilitate record of a minimum amount statistical information of the sort desired by the Board.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Nuisances dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector during the
year ending December, 1900.

Defective drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective Cesspool	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulation manure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective eaves gutter and down pipe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Defective stench traps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective drain cow stall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pavings and floor cow stall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective ventilating pipe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleanse w.c. and drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dangerous well dome over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleanse and repair drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Times empty cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sanitary dust bins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
New w.c. pans and traps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Impure water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses new drainage complete	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Cases overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Insanitary dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

In addition to the above, a number of minor nuisances were dealt with verbally.

WILLIAM HARMER,

Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE 1.
SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.
 FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated, to Middle of each year.	Births.		Deaths under 1 year.		Deaths at all ages. Total.		Deaths in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in District.	Deaths of Residents registered beyond District.	Deaths at all ages. Nett.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births regist'r'd	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1898.	6679	184	27.5		184	98	14.6	8		7	105	15.7
1899.	6875	206	29.9	24	116	109	15.8	7		6	115	16.7
Averages for years 1898-1899	6777	195	28.7	24	150	103	15.2	7		6	110	16.2
1900.	7077	182	25.7	18	98	79	11.1	9		9	88	12.4

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of of illness, and dying there; and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water),	} 1771.	At Census of 1891. Total population at all ages5,418. Number of Inhabited houses1,103. Average number of persons per house, 4.
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TABLE 2.
SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.

Name of Locality.	Year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Southborough.....	1900	7077	182	88	18

TABLE 3.

SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified
during the Year, 1900.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						No. of cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.*
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25	25 to 65.	
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	49	1	7	34	5	2	27
Membranous croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	...	4	...
Scarlet fever	8	...	...	5	3	...	5
Typhus fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Relapsing fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	63	1	7	40	8	7	32

* Isolation Hospital in Urban District.

TABLE 4.

SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during year 1900.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::
Measles	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::
Scarlet fever	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::
Whooping-cough	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::
Diphtheria and membranous croup	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteric ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other continued...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic influenza	2	...	...	...	...	I	I	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	2	I	I	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	5	...	...	I	...	4	...	...
Other tubercular diseases	4	I	...	...	...	3	...	I
Cancer, malignant disease	7	...	...	...	...	3	4	I
Bronchitis	13	4	...	...	I	2	6	...
Pneumonia	3	...	...	...	2	I	...	I
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases af Respira- tory organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism)	I	...	...	...	...	...	I	...
Cirrhosis of liver)								
Venereal diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart diseases	9	...	...	...	...	4	5	3
Accidents	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes	37	10	...	I	3	9	14	3
All causes	88	18	4	2	6	27	31	9

